



INVENTORY OF BUSINESS RELIEF RESOURCES

The following initiatives have been identified by Louisiana Economic Development as important resources for financial and business needs assistance with business recovery efforts. Although extensive, this list is not all comprehensive. Efforts are made to update information as it becomes available to this agency. Information below is sorted by date to clarify new or revised content. Please feel free to print this information in its' entirety.

<< Updated 9.16.05 >>

Loan Assistance

Louisiana Economic Development (LED) has teamed up with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to aid businesses, individuals and others. LED and SBA will be coordinating low-interest and extended-term loans through an expedited loan process. Three loan programs available are:

- **Home Disaster Loans** - for homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster damages including property losses.
- **Business Physical Disaster Loans** - to repair or replace disaster damages to property owned by businesses of all sizes. Non-profit organizations are also eligible.
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans** - for working capital to small businesses and cooperatives to assist them through the recover period.

Business owners can begin the disaster loan application process by registering online with FEMA at fema.gov or call (800) 621-FEMA (3362).

Relocation/Restart Assistance

LED is also working with numerous federal, state and local agencies, as well as economic development allies, to assist temporarily dislocated businesses. Affected businesses are asked to provide LED with a concise request of their needs to relocate or restart their business. Business owners can e-mail the department at katrinabizhelp@la.gov to get help in finding available office space or business property in communities throughout the state. When responding by e-mail, please include: your name/company name, type of business, city of business, e-mail and phone number. Also, please indicate your minimum requirements to get your business running again.

Louisiana Small Business Development Center Disaster Assistance

The Louisiana Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) assist small businesses by providing business counseling services and loan preparation assistance. The SBDCs will help businesses fill out SBA Disaster Loan applications and help them identify other loan products that may be available. There are nine centers open and for a center near you contact lsbdc.org.

Small Business Disaster Relief Fund

Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI) will begin accepting grant applications for the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund September 15. Applications can be downloaded from our Web site beginning on that date. Visit LABI at labi.org.

To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must be an owner or principal in a for-profit, private sector business that had fewer than 100 employees on August 29, 2005. Any affected business in a parish or county designated as a

primary disaster relief area by the federal government will be eligible. The business must have suffered substantial losses or the potential of long-term business interruption as a direct result of Hurricane Katrina.

The Small Business Disaster Relief Fund is not in place to give money to business owners who are permanently going out of business. Its role is to provide gap funding for losses insurance will not cover to assist small businesses reentry into the economy. An important part of the application will deal with how the applicant will use the grant to go back into business or bring their business back up to prior levels of activity more quickly. Another important factor will focus on how many jobs the grant will help restore.

Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA)

Businesses wishing to contract services through the government should go to fema.gov.

National Emergency Resource Registry

If you or your organization / agency / corporation have resources that may be made available to the response agencies, please list them in this Resource Registry.

swern.gov

ReliefPortal.Com

Reliefportal.com is a web-based directory of resources for people in need – This site aids in the following: missing persons, food & shelter, housing, finding employers, jobs, missing pets & care, health & medical, government services, education, monetary assistance, insurance claims, volunteering, donations and business assistance. Go to reliefportal.com.

Louisiana Commerical Database

Louisiana Commercial Database (LACDB.COM) is an online information exchange for Louisiana's commercial real estate professionals. The Louisiana Commercial Database LACDB.COM provides a suite of tools for managing and sharing information; making it easier to all parties involved in commercial real estate in Louisiana to connect. Go to lacdb.com for more information.

Upcoming Job Fairs for Evacuees

A job fair will be held in Lafayette on Monday, September 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cajun Field in Lafayette, Louisiana. Tables for employers are free of charge, and there is no cost for attendees. For more information, contact Henry Florshiem at the Lafayette Economic Development Authority at (337) 593-1409, or visit lafchamber.org.

Three job fairs are scheduled to be held on Tuesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 15 in Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes. Tuesday's Job Fairs will include an event to be held at Nicholls State University near Stopher Gymnasium from 8:30 a.m. until noon, and a second event to be held at the Larose Civic Center at 307 East 5th Street, Larose, LA from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. A second day of job fairs will be held at the Bayou Black Recreation Center at 3688 Southdown Mandalay Road near Houma from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Other job fairs to be held at the Houma Civic Center are also tentatively planned. The job fairs will feature area employers who have or may have available jobs that could be filled by either evacuees or local residents. Businesses interested in participating are asked to contact the South Louisiana Economic Council at (985) 448-4485, or register online at slec.org.

Business Seminar

Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips co-hosted a seminar with the LSU Business & Technology Center on Friday, September 16, 2005 at the Lod Cook Conference Center for those businesses that have been displaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina. The seminar provided information concerning the following topics:

(1) Available federal and state financial assistance to businesses; (2) Insurance coverage issues; (3) Commercial issues facing affected businesses, including force majeure, debtor/creditor issues, landlord/tenant issues, and an overview of federal contracting procedure; (4) Tax relief issues; (5) Employment law issues; (6) Information on getting one's business back up and running.

The presenters at the seminar from TPBP include Shelby McKenzie, David Bienvenu, Jim Ellis, Bob Barton, Mike Crawford, Paul Dicharry, Vicki Crochet, Tom Peak, John McDermott, and Jason Decuir. Other presenters include

Charlie D'Agostino of the LSU Business & Technology Center, Mary Lynn Wilkerson of the Louisiana Small Business Development Center and Stephen Moret, CEO of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce. Call the LSU Louisiana Business & Technology Center (LBTC) at (225) 578-7555 for information.

Access Louisiana

AccessLouisiana is a statewide database used as a business relocation tool to help companies identify available commercial properties and sites. Go to accesslouisiana.com. It allows for detailed listings of the characteristics of properties, including access to highways, waterways and utilities. Realtors especially are encouraged to place their listings on this site as soon as possible.

Business Relocation Sites

Go to accesssites.louisiana.gov to view available sites in all regions of the state.

Louisiana Department of Labor

The Louisiana Department of Labor features job listings and also information on filing for Unemployment Insurance. Visit ldol.state.la.us for more information.

Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce continues to provide the latest community information on disaster relief and assistance. Visit the website at lafchamber.org for information on job seekers, office space availability for businesses searching for temporary or permanent relocation to the area, disaster relief numbers, as well as volunteer direction.

Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA)

The Lafayette Economic Development Authority has the following resources available for Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts at lafayette.org. Virtual LEDA Job Fair (post and view job listings), Temporary Lease Properties (office, industrial and retail).

Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge

The Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge is providing business recovery resources and information to displaced businesses and is in the process of aggregating available office space and warehouse space in the Greater Baton Rouge area (East Baton Rouge and the surrounding eight parishes). The website has a link to findyourneworleansemployer.com, where employers and employees can go to get in contact with each other and obtain the latest news on the company. Go to brchamber.org.

Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce has information on job listings and office spaces in their area at shreveportchamber.org.

Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce

The Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce is offering assistance to businesses disrupted or dislocated due to Hurricane Katrina. Call (318) 442-6671. Go to cenlachamber.org.

Zydetech

Zydetech has set up computers with Internet services at the Cajundome in Lafayette, LA and is working to put together a technology centric job fair within the next couple of weeks. They are also setting up an short-term interim facility with 50 desktop units donated by Sun Microsystems, where displaced businesses can set-up temporarily. Go to zydetech.org for more information.

Bossier City Chamber of Commerce

The Bossier City Chamber of Commerce's website lists commercial property and assistance information for evacuees. Go to bossierchamber.com.

Minden-South Webster Parish Chamber of Commerce

Go to minden.org for business referrals and relocation assistance.

South Louisiana Economic Council (SLEC)

The South Louisiana Economic Council (SLEC) in Thibodaux is serving as a clearing house for housing, commercial properties, jobs matching and SBA low interest loans. They will also be coordinating matching local resources with needs for rebuilding to get companies positioned for rebuild efforts as they come online. Go to slec.org.

Monroe Chamber of Commerce

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce has resource information at their website monroe.org, and also has gathered listings on [warehouse property inventory](#) and [office property inventory](#) in their area. Those listings will be updated daily. To obtain a copy of those listings, contact Daphne McClish at (318) 807-4018.

Northeast Louisiana Economic Alliance

The Northeast Louisiana Economic Alliance is gathering information on available buildings, warehouses, and office space for rent/lease/sale. Visit nelea.us for this information.

Southwest Louisiana Partnership for Economic Development (SWLA)

Assisting businesses in the Lake Charles area. Please contact George Swift for more information at 337-721-4100 or visit swlaped.org.

Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce

Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce is providing business recovery resources and information to displaced businesses and business people. brchamber.org.

Lafayette Economic Development Authority - Relocation

Temporary lease properties for business relocation into Lafayette area. Go to lafayette.org.

Louisiana Chemical Association (LCA)

The Louisiana Chemical Association has various items and information available for its members and other businesses affected by Hurricane Katrina at lca.org.

Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI)

News and resources available for businesses affected by Hurricane Katrina can be found at labi.org.

Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (LA-PTAC)

The LA-PTAC is registering businesses interested in obtaining federal and state contracts. They anticipate needs for companies that provide debris removal and any other services that will assist in cleaning areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Go to la-ptac.org or call 800-206-3545.

Business Assistance Database

This site's function is to facilitate business redevelopment in Louisiana at this critical juncture. This database driven component administers a survey to businesses both seeking assistance and wishing to provide the same. Go to matchupkatrina.com.

Free Office Space for Small Technology Companies

The Baton Rouge technology community is providing more than 100 workstations for New Orleans' small technology companies displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The project is being spearheaded by the Baton Rouge Technology Council, a division of the Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge, and the Louisiana Technology Park. The workstations, located at the Louisiana Technology Park and the Bon Carré Business Center, will have all of the necessities for technology companies to conduct business including high-speed internet access and phone service for at least three months. Use of these facilities and services is free to qualified companies. Up to three workstations are available for any member in good standing of the Louisiana Technology Council with 25 or less employees. Companies interested in applying for space should visit www.brnoconnect.com or contact Tim Fontenot at 225-612-2136. Go to brnoconnect.com.

CCC Business Disaster Assistance Program

Website helps businesses communicate, coordinate, and collaborate with each other and with the public sector and non-governmental organization on disaster assistance projects and issues.

Go to uschamber.com.

Free Disaster Recovery for Business Data Infrastructure

Xiolink can provide the servers, data center space, Internet connection, corporate email, etc. to get your business data available. Xiolink is offering its recovery services free of charge to Hurricane Katrina victims. Call 877-494-6546 and go to xiolink.com for more information.

Disaster Insurance Information Center

This site is a clearinghouse of information regarding the process of registering insurance claims in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Go to disasterinformation.org for more information.

Post Katrina Talent

Post Katrina Talent is an online resource for marketing, advertising, public relations and creative professionals who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina. This is a way for professionals to post their resumes online and in front of potential employers in the Gulf Coast Region and around the United States. Call 225-368-9899 and go to postkatrinatalent.org.

Registry of Displaced Physicians and Patients

Online portal where displaced physicians and patients can re-connect with one another. Physicians and other healthcare providers can post their new contact information and patients can search for the physician. There is also a web log for posting comments on medical related information at mdtechnologies.com. Call 225-343-7169 or toll-free at 1-800-290-1657.

Cendant Missing Employees Hotline

Due to the evacuation of New Orleans and other areas in Katrina's path, it has been virtually impossible to communicate with Cendant employees in the region. If you are, or know of, a Cendant employee in any of the affected areas, please call the Cendant Employee Hotline so that they may provide assistance. 866-827-2347. Go to cendant.com for more information.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car Missing Employee Info Hotline

Enterprise officials are still searching for nearly 100 employees still unaccounted for in the hurricane affected areas. Employees are asked to call the hotline to confirm that they are ok. 800-239-2886 Go to enterprise.com for more information.

Find Your New Orleans Employees

This site has been set up to allow Employers and Employees of New Orleans area organizations to get in contact with each other. Go to findyourneworleansemployer.com for more information.

UPS Missing Employee Info Hotline

UPS has several hundred employees still unaccounted for. If you are an employee of UPS that works in one of the hurricane-affected areas, please call 1-866-260-7545 or 1-866-876-0964.

Go to ups.com for more information.

Yahoo! Company Message Board

Yahoo! Message Board postings related to company business, including messages to displaced employees. Go to messages.yahoo.com to post messages.

DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS FROM NON-PROFITS AND CORPORATIONS

- **Katrina Relief Fund**

The Community Foundation serving Clark, Cowlitz, and Skamania counties is offering assistance to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts by providing an online portal for donations to the Katrina Relief Fund. Concerned individuals and organizations can make an online contribution to the Fund quickly and easily by using the Foundation's secure website. Donations to the Katrina Relief Fund within the Community Foundation will be processed promptly and 100% of gifts received will be sent to aid victims in the

Southeast. Requests received for emergency relief will be processed within 48 hours. Visit the website listed above for more information. Go to arcf.org.

- **Baton Rouge Area Foundation**

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has established two funds designated to benefit those impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Go to braf.org for more information.

- The **Hurricane Katrina Displaced Residents Fund** will benefit those individuals evacuated to Baton Rouge from the hurricane impacted areas in Greater New Orleans.
- The **Hurricane Katrina New Orleans Recovery Fund** will focus on the rebuilding of infrastructure to provide basic human services to residents of these devastated areas.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation appreciates donations to either fund in this critical time in order to assist those dealing with the catastrophic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Go to braf.org for grant guidelines for the Hurricane Katrina Relief Funds. Visit the website listed above for more information.

- **Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity International announced an emergency appeal for funds to help Habitat families and other low-income families in the affected areas recover and rebuild. In addition to the emergency appeal, Habitat's Disaster Response Office has initiated the process of assessing the status of Habitat partner families. Further assessments will continue on the housing needs created by the Hurricane as the first step for planning the long-term recovery and the building of permanent recovery homes. As conditions on the ground allow, Habitat teams will move to assist Habitat families and others who lived in the storm's destructive path and provide whatever immediate assistance possible. Long-term assistance will involve Habitat affiliates and volunteers working together with those impacted by the storm in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Go to habitat.org for more information.

- **Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund**

- Twenty-First Century Foundation**

The Twenty-First Century Foundation is a national public foundation created to promote strategic philanthropy by the African American/Black community. The Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund of the Twenty-First Century Foundation will partner with organizations in the region to ensure that resources get to the people who need them most, and achieve the justice goals at the heart of this initiative. The Fund will provide strategic grants for relief, recovery and advocacy efforts that promote long term equitable solutions. Contributions to the Fund will pool individual gifts and target resources to provide direct assistance while investing in the civil rights and economic empowerment of Black communities in the region. Donations to the Fund may be made through the website at 21cf.org.

- **Support for Artists Affected by Disasters**

- Craft Emergency Relief Fund: Disaster Relief Grant**

The Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) offers Disaster Relief Grants of up to \$1,000 for craft artists who have been seriously injured or whose homes or studios have been severely damaged by a significant, widespread disaster such as destructive floods, earthquakes, storms or terrorist attacks. To be considered for this grant, the applicant is required to complete the Quick Loan application. CERF will determine whether a loan or a grant offer or a combination of the two will be made. Priority for grants will be given to those most severely affected by the disaster. Visit the website craftemergency.org for more information.

- **Foundation Activities to Resume Soon**

- Greater New Orleans Foundation**

The Greater New Orleans Foundation staff has been working diligently to restore services to its fund holders, donors, grantees and professional advisors with the goal of rebuilding the Greater New Orleans community as soon as possible. The Foundation is aiming to resume donor advised grantmaking, accepting donations and accessing funds the week of September 12th. Contact with the Foundation through phone, mail and staff email addresses will be available then. In the interim, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation has graciously welcomed the Greater New Orleans Foundation staff into their offices. For more information visit gnof.org.

- **Foundation Provides Assistance for Hurricane Evacuees**

The Rapides Foundation

The Rapides Foundation is providing \$1 million to go to agencies that are offering assistance to Hurricane Katrina evacuees in Central Louisiana. The money will go to the United Way of Central Louisiana, which has set up a special fund, the Central Louisiana Katrina Response Fund. In addition, the Foundation will provide money, up to \$200,000, directly to school districts for expenses for students who have been evacuated and are enrolling in schools throughout Central Louisiana. The Foundation's Board of Trustees called an emergency vote to suspend the organization's grantmaking application process to immediately provide this funding. Visit the website at rapidesfoundation.org for more information.

- **Power of Hope Fund**

Entergy Corporation

Entergy Corporation is working to amass dollars to bring relief to Hurricane Katrina disaster victims -- many of whom can be counted among the ranks of its own employees. The Power of Hope Fund will be used to help disaster victims restore their lives in the aftermath of the storm. Entergy will seed the fund with a corporate contribution of \$1 million. The Fund is administered through the Foundation for the Mid South. To keep donations coming in, the phone lines must be free. Details about how to apply for assistance will be communicated as soon as it is available. If you are an Entergy employee or customer in need of assistance and would like someone to contact you with information about how to get help, please send an email to iestormnet@entergy.com and you will receive details as soon as they are available. Contact Liz Brister, Development Director for the Foundation for the Mid South with specific questions about the Power of Hope Fund. Visit the website at fndmidsouth.org for more information.

- **Foundation Extends Application Deadline**

Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation

Nancy Kassak Diekmann, Executive Director of the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation, has announced that the September 15th application deadline will be extended for individuals directly affected by Hurricane Katrina. Individuals who were planning to apply but were unable to meet the deadline may contact the office directly to make arrangements for an extension (212-529-0814, or by email at: jlpad@aol.com). Recognizing that many people still do not have access to phones and/or computers, the Foundation will be as flexible as its application review schedule allows, with regard to extension requests. Go to jlpad.org for more information.

- **Home Depot Provides Disaster Support**

The Home Depot

The Home Depot announced a direct cash donation of \$1.5 million to support the relief and rebuilding efforts of areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The company will make a donation of \$400,000 to emergency management organizations for immediate disaster relief and recovery. In addition, the company will also make a donation of \$600,000 to support long-term rebuilding efforts in the affected communities. This portion of the funding will go to "Rebuilding Funds" established by the Corporation for National Community Service and Hands On Network. These organizations will re-grant funds to nonprofit organizations and manage volunteer-driven rebuilding projects for community facilities, such as schools, senior and community centers, and parks. Visit the website at nationalservice.gov for more information.

- **Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund**

The Columbus Foundation

This fund was created by The Columbus Foundation to assist those affected by the disaster in the Gulf Coast Region. This fund will award grants weekly to Gulf-area community foundations, such as the Greater New Orleans Foundation and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. One hundred percent of all gifts to the fund will go directly to charity. Visit columbusfoundation.org.

- **Support for Animals Impacted by Hurricane Katrina**

PetSmart Charities

As part of its grantmaking, PetSmart Charities provides emergency relief aid to assist pets in times of hurricanes, fire, and other natural catastrophes. In 2004, PetSmart donated funding and supplies to provide immediate help for pets affected by 45 natural disasters and cruelty cases. PetSmart Charities is currently assisting hundreds of animal welfare agencies as they work to help the pets affected by the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. To request assistance or to offer financial support, call 1-800-423-PETS. Go to petsmart.com.

- **Katrina Cooperative Recovery Fund**
Cooperative Development Foundation

The Cooperative Development Foundation (CDF), a nonprofit charitable organization that promotes community, economic and social development through cooperative enterprise, announced the launch of the Katrina Cooperative Recovery Fund. The Fund will direct contributions specifically to individuals and cooperative businesses in the rural areas of the three hurricane-ravaged states. The Fund will seek contributions from all sectors of the cooperative business community and the public. CDF will take no administrative fee for funds raised to assure that 100 percent of the funds donated reaches the people and organizations that need help. Online donation to the Katrina Cooperative Recovery Fund can be made through the CDF website, cdf.coop.

- **Hurricane Katrina Fund for Evacuees**
Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier

The Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier has set up the Hurricane Katrina Fund, which will benefit those individuals and families evacuated to the Shreveport-Bossier area from hurricane-impacted regions. These evacuees are now unable to return for what may be an extended period and will face numerous challenges related to housing, food, education, healthcare, and basic survival necessities. One hundred percent of the donations received for the Fund will be directed to those charitable entities and programs in the Shreveport-Bossier area that endeavor to meet these critical needs, as well as address the impact this influx of residents will have on the community. Visit the website at comfoundsb.org for more information.

- **Family Farm Disaster Fund**
Farm Aid

Farm Aid established the Family Farm Disaster Fund to channel emergency assistance to farm families devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Farm Aid has sent an initial \$30,000 to several of its partner family farm organizations in the southeast. Individuals can contribute to Farm Aid's disaster fund online at farmaid.org or by calling 1-800-FARM-AID.

DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS FROM GOVERNMENT

Tax Payer Assistance for Hurricane Victims

Internal Revenue Service

The Internal Revenue Service announced that it will partner with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) to provide assistance to taxpayers at local disaster recovery centers established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The CPA volunteers will soon join IRS employees to staff disaster recovery centers servicing some of the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. Visit the website at irs.gov for more information.

- **IRS Expedites Charity Applications**
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

The IRS will provide an expedited review and approval process for new organizations seeking tax-exempt status in order to provide relief for victims of Hurricane Katrina. New organizations should apply for tax-exempt status by filing IRS Form 1023 (see the form at irs.gov).

Write at the top of the form "Disaster Relief, Hurricane Katrina." The IRS will give such applications expedited attention to ensure they meet legal requirements. In addition, the IRS also offers Publication 3833, Disaster Relief: Providing Assistance Through Charitable Organizations, which provides guidance on the application process. The IRS does, however, encourage the use of existing charitable organizations because such organizations are frequently able to administer relief programs more efficiently than newly formed organizations since they already have fundraising and distribution infrastructures in place. The website of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) fema.gov and the U.S. Government's official web portal, FirstGov.gov, firstgov.gov, offer lists of organizations that provide support to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

- **NEG - National Emergency Grant**

Funds to be used to temporarily employ dislocated workers (evacuees). These funds can be used to employ workers on projects that provide food, clothing, shelter and other humanitarian assistance for disaster victims. Currently Louisiana has applied for \$62.1 M in NEG funds, with an initial release of \$20M. Affected workers will be paid \$9/hour plus fringe benefits (social security, FICA, etc.) at 40 hours per week for up to 12 weeks. The initial monies are for approximately 10,000 temporary jobs. The money is being sent to 15 local workforce investment areas (LWIA's) across the state. Government or nonprofits may employ the affected individuals. Contact: Paula Merrick Roddy, Executive Special Assistant, Office of the Secretary, Louisiana Department of Labor, 1001 North 23rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, proddy@ldol.state.la.us, 225-342-7637, 225-342-3778(fax). Go to www.dol.gov.

- **Federal Funding for Cultural Institutions**
National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts has made available a booklet entitled "Before and After Disasters: Federal Funding for Cultural Institutions." Created by the NEA, FEMA and Heritage Preservation, it is a guide to funding for mitigation and recovery from 15 federal grant and loan programs. The booklet will be published at the end of this month but is currently available on the website at heritagepreservation.org.

- **National Endowment for the Arts Extends Deadline**
Arts on Radio and Television

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the National Endowment for the Arts is extending the deadline for Arts on Radio and Television applicants from Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida to September 15, 2005. If you have further questions please contact: Laura Welsh, Arts on Radio & TV Program Officer, 202-682-5738; welshl@arts.endow.gov. The postmark (or other proof of mailing) deadline for all other applicants remains September 9, 2005. Go to nea.gov for more information.

- **Federal HHS Takes Action**
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Mike Leavitt declared a public health emergency for Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama. This action allows the Department to waive certain Medicare, Medicaid, State Child Health Insurance Program, and HIPAA requirements as well as make grants and enter into contracts more expeditiously during this emergency. Visit the website at hhs.gov for more information.

- **Relief for Taxpayers**
Internal Revenue Service

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced special relief for taxpayers in the Presidential Disaster Areas struck by the hurricane. These taxpayers generally will have until October 31 to file tax returns and submit tax payments. The IRS will stop interest and any late filing or late payment penalties that would otherwise apply. This relief includes the September 15 due date for estimated taxes and for calendar-year corporate returns with automatic extensions. Visit the website at irs.gov for more information.

- **SBA Ready to Offer Assistance**
Small Business Administration

To show continued commitment to Hurricane Katrina victims, the Small Business Administration (SBA) will position loan officers in every federal/state disaster recovery center that is opened. SBA is also prepared to provide help in other states in the eastern half of the country where this powerful storm may also lead to disaster area declarations. Go to sba.gov for more information.

- **Emergency Grants from NEH**
National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities will make available at least \$1 million for emergency grants to libraries, museums, colleges, universities, and other cultural and historical institutions in Gulf Coast areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. Affected institutions can apply immediately for emergency grants of up to \$30,000 to preserve books, records, manuscripts, art, and cultural artifacts damaged by the hurricane and the flooding that followed. Application details will be available on the NEH website, neh.gov. NEH is also contacting the executive directors of the state humanities councils in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana to offer \$30,000 emergency grants to help the Endowment's state affiliates begin the process of assessing local damages and recovering cultural resources in their respective states.

- **Louisiana Agriculture Disaster Relief Fund**

In the weeks following Hurricane Katrina, Louisiana Farm Bureau has received numerous emails and calls concerning a disaster relief fund. The Louisiana Farm Bureau Foundation Disaster Relief Fund has been established to assist farmers in this time of need. The attached letter will provide more details about the fund. Thank you for your interest in the recovery effort of Louisiana agriculture.

These funds will be designated for agricultural producers in the affected areas. We feel certain this will be an ongoing effort since assessing the damage is difficult. If you have any further questions or need more information, please contact Barbara Langley (225/922-6213) barbaral@lfbf.org or Nolan Babineaux (225/922-6214) nolanb@lfbf.org at our State Office.

- **Hurricane Help for Schools**

U.S. Department of Education

Hurricane Help for Schools, a website sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, will serve as a clearinghouse of resources for Americans who want to help the students displaced by the hurricane. The site will link schools serving students displaced by the hurricane in need of supplies and companies and organizations that are willing to provide supplies. Visit the website at ed.gov for more information.

- **HUD Offers Disaster Assistance**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson announced that he is instructing all FHA-approved lenders to provide foreclosure relief to FHA-insured families who are affected by Hurricane Katrina. The relief includes a special 90-day moratorium on all foreclosures of FHA-insured properties in the declared disaster areas. Visit the website at hud.gov for more information.

- **HRSA Extends Application Deadlines**

U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration

Applicants located in counties or parishes in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi that have been designated by either FEMA or the state Governor as "designated counties" for the purposes of disaster assistance are automatically granted a deadline extension for competitive funding opportunities until November 30, 2005 at 5:00 PM ET. Other applicants who believe they have been adversely affected by Katrina and will be unable to complete and submit a timely application should send a request for an extension to Gail Lipton at glipton@hrsa.gov. These requests, which will be handled on an individual basis, should include the guidance number, the location of the applicant, and specific information which indicates why the agency is unable to meet the published deadline.

- **DOL Provides Support for Hurricane Victims**

U.S. Department of Labor

The U.S. Department of Labor is providing support for communities affected by Hurricane Katrina through several programs. Impacted states can apply for National Emergency Grants that can be used to temporarily employ dislocated workers. The DOL is working with state and local governments in disaster areas and relief sites to issue unemployment insurance and disaster unemployment assistance. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is providing technical assistance and resources to help protect those participating in cleanup and recovery efforts. The Employee Benefits Security Administration is extending pension plan filing deadlines. Visit dol.gov for more information.

- **IMLS Deadline Extended for Museums in Declared Disaster Areas**

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Mary Chute, Acting Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), has announced that the application deadline for the agency's Conservation Project Support grant program has been extended from October 1 to November 1 for museums in the counties that have been declared disaster areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Visit imls.gov for more information.

- **Lessons From Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts: Reinforcing Online Communications**
ePhilanthropy Foundation

In response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Sheeraz Haji, CEO of GetActive Software, has written an article addressing the role online communications play in assuring a rapid response in fundraising and other relief efforts. The article, available on the ePhilanthropy website, discusses the necessity of having the infrastructure in place to rapidly mobilize when crisis hits, and the ability to make sure that messaging stays focused and relevant to constituents. The article also addresses the role of the Internet in managing additional aspects of relief efforts. Go to imakenews.com.

OTHER RESOURCES

- **Hurricane Information and Assistance**

- **Internal Revenue Service**

- The Internal Revenue Service is working to provide appropriate relief and assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina and information to their fellow citizens who want to help. The website, irs.gov provides information to organizations focusing on disaster relief as well as to individuals affected by the hurricane.

- **Hurricane Katrina Resource Center**

- **Apartments.com**

- Online rentals category leader, Apartments.com, launched the Hurricane Katrina Resource Center within its site to help the estimated 500,000 to upwards of one million homeless and displaced citizens in the Southeastern United States. The Resource Center provides information to help individuals locate rental information or other Hurricane Katrina relief resources quickly and easily. The site includes a listing of properties that have special discounts or other support for Hurricane Katrina victims as well as general links to Hurricane Katrina support and relief sites for victims, their family and friends. Visit apartments.com for more information.

- **Mental Health Guidelines for Disaster Relief Organizations**

- **International Medical Corps**

- International Medical Corps (IMC) has developed mental health guidelines for organizations working with populations displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The guidelines are provided for first responders and relief volunteers helping those affected by Hurricane Katrina. The guidelines summarize lessons learned regarding mental health activities for large populations, based on IMC's extensive experience in international rapid onset emergencies, such as the recent tsunami. Visit imcworldwide.org to download the guidelines.

- **Youth Service America Seeking Stories**

- **Youth Service America**

- Youth Service America (YSA) is sharing with the media how young people across the country are mobilizing resources to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina. These projects could be efforts undertaken by youth on their own or as part of a community organization, faith-based group, or a school. Please send stories to Christina Wessell, Manager of Communications & Outreach, 202-296-2992 ext. 28 or mail to: cwessell@ysa.org. Visit the website at ysa.org.

- **Free Online Services for Disaster Relief Organizations**

- **Stargazer Foundation**

- Stargazer provides Virtual Joint Information Centers as well as FamilyLinks designed to provide services so that organizations and families can communicate and coordinate in emergencies. As a public service, Stargazer is making its online services temporarily available at no cost to any families, groups, organizations, commercial companies, or government agencies that need to use these services to respond to the Hurricane Katrina Disaster. Visit the website at wps.stargazer.org for more information.

FEMA-RECOMMENDED CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

- **American Red Cross Disaster Donations**

- (800) 435-7669

- redcross.org

- **Baton Rouge Red Cross**

- (225) 295-0104, (225) 243-1889

- batonrouge.redcross.org

- **Catholic Charities, USA**
(800) 919-9338
catholiccharitiesusa.org
- **Salvation Army**
(800) 725-2769
1800salarmy.org
- **United Methodist Committee On Relief**
(800) 554-8583
gbgm-umc.org
- **Other charitable agencies recommended by FEMA**
fema.gov

EMPLOYER MATCHING DONATIONS

The following companies will match donations to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts:

- **Boeing**
boeing.com
- **Kroger**
kroger.com
- **Gannett**
gannettfoundation.org
- **Mercks**
merck.coml
- **Kraft**
kraft.com
- **Lilly**
newsroom.lilly.com

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

These definitions may be helpful in understanding the difference in unemployment insurance, disaster unemployment assistance and the new national emergency grant for dislocated workers.

- **UI Benefits - Unemployment Insurance Benefits:**
Available for persons who are unemployed through layoffs or other issues through no fault of their own (not being fired) - this is considered regular unemployment insurance benefits and persons unemployed would go through the regular application process online or at a local job service/one stop office.
- **DUA - Disaster Unemployment Assistance:**
DUA provides unemployment insurance to individuals whose employment or self-employment has been lost or interrupted as a direct result of a major disaster. Before an individual can be determined eligible for DUA, it must be established that the individual is not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits (under any state or federal law)

Claims may be filed several ways: in person at any LDOL One Stop or job center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; online at www.LAWORKS.net; or by calling 1-800-818-7811. To receive DUA benefits, individuals must provide their social security number, proof of wages and proof of employment, including the name and address of the last employer. Self-employed individuals must provide their business and financial records, including federal income tax returns for the most recent tax year.

LOUISIANA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE – Public Facilities

This site is for the online application and management of Public Assistance grants from FEMA to State and local governments, Indian tribes, and certain Private Non-Profit (PNP) organizations. The FEMA Public Assistance program provides supplemental Federal disaster grant assistance for the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain PNP organizations. -- for ports, public buildings, our partners, etc. Go to <http://www.louisianapa.com>.

Department of Labor Hurricane Relief Information

The toll-free numbers are as follows: For persons seeking employment: 1-866-310-1585; for employers seeking workers: 1-800-481-6762. Business services representatives in regions:

Region	BSR Name	Office	Phone Number	Fax Number
Alexandria	Eric Irby	Alexandria Regional	(318) 487-5553	(318) 487-5567

	Julia Harris	Lake Charles	(337) 475-4900 ext. 129	(337) 475-4924
Baton Rouge	Lynn Champagne	Gonzales	(225) 644-0335	(225) 644-8271
	Thelma Wells	Hammond	(985) 543-4972	(985) 543-4013
Lafayette	Barbara Prejean	Lafayette	(337) 262-5559	(337) 262-1377
Houma	Sam Battaglia	Thibodeaux	(985) 447-0931	(985) 446-1658
Monroe	Truman Miers	Monroe	(318) 362-5151	(318) 362-3000
	Donnie Kerr	Monroe	(318) 362-5105	(318) 362-5146
Shreveport	Jack Weddle	Bossier City	(318) 741-7369	(318) 741-7373
	Marie Blake	Minden	(318) 371-3019	(318) 371-3053
	John Axford	Shreveport	(318) 676-5998	(318) 676-5694

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- ? **Where can I obtain Disaster Unemployment Assistance information?**
(800) 818-7811 or LAWWORKS.NET
- ? **Where can I obtain Unemployment Insurance benefits information?**
(800) 818-7811 or LAWWORKS.NET
- ? **Where can I obtain Workers' Compensation benefits information?**
(800) 201-2494 or -3457, or (225) 342-7561 or -7555, or (800) 818-7811 or LAWWORKS.NET
- ? **Where can I change my address for my unemployment insurance benefits?**
(225)342-2886, -9602, or -2818. or LAWWORKS.NET
- ? **I forgot my username and/or password for the LAVOS system?**
Call 225-342-2916 or 225-342-6455
- ? **I forgot my pin # - for persons who used the automated telephone system, i.e., persons who are updating/changing/verifying information for their Unemployment Insurance benefits and/or claims**
Call 225-342-2916 or 225-342-6455

WORKERS LOOKING FOR JOBS

- ? **Where can I obtain information concerning employment or job training?**
 - A. Refer to 1-866-310-1585 for specific assistance OR
 - B. Complete the following:
- ? **What part of the state are you living in now? (city or parish)**
Review the Louisiana Offices Providing Job Service Assistance contact list and give them the contact information for the city/parish.
- ? **What part of the state would you like to return to? (city or parish)?**
Review the Louisiana Offices Providing Job Service Assistance contact list and give them the contact information for the city/parish.

Information can be obtained from the LDOL website LAWWORKS.NET, Workforce Development tab, LA Offices Job Service Assistance or faxed to them. Information can be emailed to them. (PLEASE LOOK ON SHARE DRIVE IN THE KATRINA HURRICANE INFO folder located at [S:/Katrina Hurricane Info/LDOL-LWIA Offices](#)) or faxed to them if they request multiple sites. Resumes may be also posted at the LAWWORKS.NET site

EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR WORKERS

- ? I am an employer. Where can I find workers?
Complete the Job Order Information Form and place in folder by Region
Contact the Region requested by the employer by email or fax
Refer employers to the LAWWORKS.NET site to post job orders and review potential employee resumes

Louisiana Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)

Business owners should be referred to DRCs for SBA Disaster Loan assistance related to physical property damage of businesses, damage to business contents (inventory, supplies, etc.) and "economic injury" to businesses (working capital).

Caddo / Bossier Parish (Shreveport)

Summergrove Baptist Church
2820 Summer Grove, Shreveport, LA 71118
Opened: Tuesday, September 6

Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

Ouachita Parish (Monroe)

Monroe Civic Center Conference Hall

401 Lea Joyner Expressway, Monroe, LA 71210
 Opened: Tuesday, September 6
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

Iberville Parish (Plaquemine)

Iberville Parish Library
 24605 J. Gerald Berret Blvd., Plaquemine, LA 70764
 Opened: Thursday, September 8
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

Lafayette Parish (Lafayette)

Restoration Life Church
 111 Liberty Ave., Lafayette, LA 70508
 Opened: Friday, September 9
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

Rapides Parish (Alexandria)

Office Max Building
 2255 MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA 71301
 Opened: Saturday, September 10
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

ONE-STOP SHOPS AND JOB CENTERS

Webster Parish (Minden)

Old Walmart Building
 1100 Homer Road, Minden, LA 71055
 Opened: Tuesday, September 13
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

Plaquemines Parish (Belle Chasse)

Plaquemines Parish Primary School
 539 F. Edward Heber Blvd., Belle Chasse, LA 70037
 Opened: Wednesday, September 14 at 9AM
 Open 7 days a week from 7AM to 5PM

East Baton Rouge Parish (Baton Rouge)

Louisiana Economic Development
 101 France Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-6263
 Opened: Thursday, September 14
 Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM

OFFICE NAME	STREET	CITY	ZIP	PHONE NO.	PARISHES SERVED
VERMILION ONE-STOP	306-A North Hospital Drive	Abbeville	70510	337-893-1986	Vermilion
RAPIDES JOB CENTER	5610 B Coliseum Blvd.	Alexandria	71309	318-487-5532	Avoyelles, Grant, Rapides, LaSalle, Winn
BASTROP JOB CENTER	250 Holt Street	Bastrop	71270	318-283-0849	Morehouse, Union, West Carroll
BATON ROUGE SOUTH JOB CENTER	1991 Wooddale Blvd.	Baton Rouge	70806	225-925-4311	East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, West Iberville
BATON ROUGE NORTH ONE-STOP	4523 Plank Road	Baton Rouge	70805	225-358-4517	East Baton Rouge
BOSSIER CITY JOB CENTER	4000 Viking Drive	Bossier City	71111	318-741-7360	Bossier, Red River
CAMERON ONE-STOP	723 Marshall Street	Cameron	70631	337-775-7226	Cameron
GRANT ONE-STOP	207 Main Street	Colfax	71417	318-627-5251	Grant
CALDWELL ONE-STOP	404 Wall Street, Suite 7	Columbia	71418	318-649-5398	Caldwell
CROWLEY JOB CENTER	11 North Parkerson Avenue	Crowley	70527	337-788-7550	Acadia
BEAUREGARD ONE-STOP	1808 Hwy. 190, West, Suite G	DeRidder	70634	337-462-5838	Beauregard
UNION ONE-STOP	303-B East Water Street (Courthouse Annex)	Farmerville	71241	318-368-9606	Union
CONCORDIA ONE-STOP	107 North E.E. Wallace Blvd.	Ferriday	71334	318-757-9213	Concordia
FERRIDAY JOB CENTER	105 E. Wallace Blvd.	Ferriday	71334	318-757-4931	Catahoula, Concordia
ST. MARY-FRANKLIN ONE-STOP	600 Main Street	Franklin	70538	337-828-0257	St. Mary
GONZALES JOB CENTER	1721-D South Burnside Ave.	Gonzales	70707	225-644-0335	Ascension
HAMMOND JOB CENTER	1711 Nashville Avenue	Hammond	70404	985-543-4960	Tangipahoa
TANGIPAHOA ONE-STOP	1745 S.W. Railroad Avenue, Suite 201	Hammond	70403	985-345-4134	Ascension, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, W.Baton Rouge, W.Feliciana
CATAHOULA ONE-STOP	204 Sicily Street, Suite 2	Harrisonburg	71340	318-744-5672	Catahoula

HOUMA JOB CENTER	7528 Main Street	Houma	70361	985-857-3640	Lafourche, Jefferson (Grand Isle), Terrebonne, Assumption
TERREBONNE ONE-STOP	807 Barrow Street	Houma	70360	985-873-6855	Assumption, Lafourche, Terrebonne
LASALLE ONE-STOP	1050 Courthouse Street, Room 25	Jena	71342	318-992-8271	Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Winn
JEFFERSON DAVIS ONE-STOP	203 East Academy Ave.	Jennings	70546	337-824-2797	Jefferson Davis
JACKSON ONE-STOP	182 Industrial Drive	Jonesboro	71251	318-259-3801	Jackson
LAFAYETTE WEST ONE-STOP	805 W. Congress St.	Lafayette	70501	337-291-7034	Lafayette
LAFAYETTE EAST JOB CENTER	706 East Vermillion Street	Lafayette	70501	337-262-5511	Lafayette, St. Martin (North Part), Vermilion
CALCASIEU WORKFORCE CENTER	4250 Fifth Ave.	Lake Charles	70602	337-475-4900	Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis
EAST CARROLL ONE-STOP	1320 Sparrow Street	Lake Providence	71254	318-559-1618	East Carroll
LAPLACE JOB CENTER	2701 New Hwy. 51	LaPlace	70069	985-652-3471	St. Charles, St. James, East St. John
VERNON EAST JOB CENTER	2501 McRae Street, Suite A	Leesville	71496	337-238-6436	Allen, Beauregard, Vernon
VERNON WEST JOB CENTER	408 West Fertitta Blvd.	Leesville	71446	337-238-4179	Allen, Beauregard, Vernon
DESOTO ONE-STOP	142 Lake Road	Mansfield	71052	318-871-2391	DeSoto
AVOYELLES ONE-STOP	320 Cottage Street	Marksville	71351	318-240-8820	Avoyelles
SABINE ONE-STOP	820 Main Street	Many	71449	318-256-2698	Sabine
MINDEN JOB CENTER	310 Homer Road	Minden	71058	318-371-3024	Bienville, Claiborne, Webster
MONROE JOB CENTER	3158 Louisville Avenue	Monroe	71201	318-362-5111	Ouachita, Lincoln, Jackson
MORGAN CITY JOB CENTER	7710 Highway 182 East	Morgan City	70381	985-380-2448	Acadia, St. Mary
NATCHITOCHES JOB CENTER	303 Bienville Street	Natchitoches	71457	318-357-3145	Natchitoches
NATCHITOCHES ONE-STOP	714 Fourth Street	Natchitoches	71457	318-357-3275	Natchitoches
NEW IBERIA JOB CENTER	124 East Main Street	New Iberia	70562	337-373-0010	Iberia
POINTE COUPEE ONE-STOP	305 East Main Street	New Roads	70760	225-638-6852	Pointe Coupee
ALLEN JOB CENTER	117 Hwy. 1152	Oakdale	71463	318-335-4335	Allen
WEST CARROLL ONE-STOP	706 East Main Street	Oakgrove	71263	318-428-8640	West Carroll
ALLEN ONE-STOP	109 Eighth Street	Oberlin	70655	337-639-2175	Allen
OPELOUSAS JOB CENTER	203 W. Bellevue Street	Opelousas	70570	337-948-0246	Evangeline, St. Landry
ST. LANDRY ONE-STOP	1305 Diesi Street	Opelousas	70570	337-948-1330	Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion
IBERVILLE ONE-STOP	23425 Railroad Avenue, Suite 1	Plaquemine	70764	225-687-0969	Plaquemines
WEST BATON ROUGE ONE-STOP	149 North Jefferson Ave.	Port Allen	70767	225-343-5915	West Baton Rouge
RICHLAND ONE-STOP	105 Ray Street, Suite C	Rayville	71269	318-728-3348	Richland
BIENVILLE ONE-STOP	2434 Manning Street	Ringgold	71068	318-894-9173	Not open Tuesday Bienville
RUSTON SUB-OFFICE	307 N. Homer Street, Suite 306	Ruston	71270	318-251-4175	Lincoln
SHREVEPORT JOB CENTER	2900 Dowdell Street	Shreveport	71133	318-676-7788	Caddo, DeSoto
WEST FELICIANA ONE-STOP	5681 Commerce Street	St. Francisville	70775	225-635-6635	E.Feliciana, West Feliciana
TENSAS ONE-STOP	127 Plank Road	St. Joseph	71366	318-766-3606	Tensas
ST. MARTINVILLE JOB CENTER	1109 S. Main Street	St. Martinville	70582	337-394-2205	St. Martin

TALLULAH NORTH ONE-STOP	1012 North Beech Street	Tallulah	71282	318-574-4746	Madison
TALLULAH SOUTH JOB CENTER	405 N. Cerda Street	Tallulah	71284	318-574-0140	E. Carroll, Madison, Tensas, Lafourche
LAFOURCHE ONE-STOP	108 Suite B, West Main Street	Thibodaux	70301	985-446-3016	
EVANGELINE ONE-STOP	417 West Magnolia	Ville Platte	70586	337-363-6241	Evangeline
LIVINGSTON ONE-STOP	9384 Florida Blvd., Suite B	Walker	70785	225-667-1874	Livingston
WINN ONE-STOP	201 North Beville Street, Suite 2	Winnfield	71483	318-628-4641	Winn
FRANKLIN ONE-STOP	3290 Front Street	Winnsboro	71295	318-435-2151	Caldwell, E. Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Richland, Tensas

REENTRY TO DISASTER AREAS

- **Jefferson Parish**

Go to www.jeffparish.net for the latest on reentry.

- **Orleans Parish**

Beginning Monday, officials of businesses in the New Orleans central business district will be able to get temporary passes so that they can retrieve vital records and equipment.

Business owners or representatives should call the New Orleans Police Department police at 504-599-5541 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. for information on how to obtain the pass, which will allow entry into the city from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The passes will allow employers and business owners access to payroll records, computer drives or other items business owners might need to operate outside of New Orleans, Brown said. Overnight stays will not be allowed.

News from Louisiana Forestry Association

Bill Kleinpeter with the Louisiana Forestry Association met with the Washington Parish Road Supt John Taylor about weight limits during Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. Loggers do have to get a permit from the parish office and they will get route information about which bridges can hold the log truck weights in the parish. They will be allowed to use the 95,000 pound weight limit as stated in the governor's executive order as long as they avoid bridges that will not hold the weight.

Operation Rebuild – Houma/Thibodaux Region

Through Operation Rebuild, the South Central Industrial Association, Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce, and the Terrebonne Economic Development Authority have partnered to provide referral assistance and serve as a clearinghouse for needed information to assist area business and industry affected by Katrina to rebuild and to assist any business/industry for the New Orleans region looking to temporarily relocate to our area to remain in business. We believe keeping these businesses in business is extremely important to the state. We are ready to offer referral assistance for financing, housing, office space, available land, you name it. Operation Rebuild can be found on the websites of SCIA (sciaonline.net) the Chamber (houmachamber.com) and TEDA (tpeda.com). Also houmatoday.com. We are looking for any business/industry that is looking to temporarily relocate. We can help. I have been hired by the Operation Rebuild part
Mart Black - Operation Rebuild (985-851-2917).